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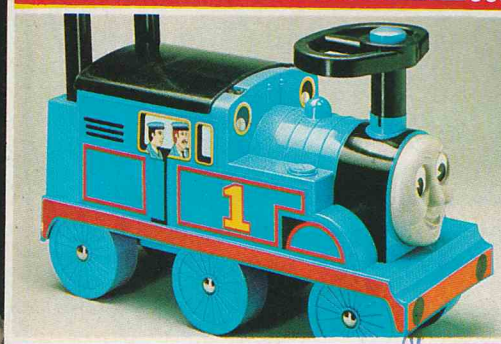
15th Sept. 1990
No. 76 45p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev W Awdry

A BRAND NEW HAT...HOW SPLENDID!

WIN A PRIZE...



INSIDE!

ISSN 0954-9390

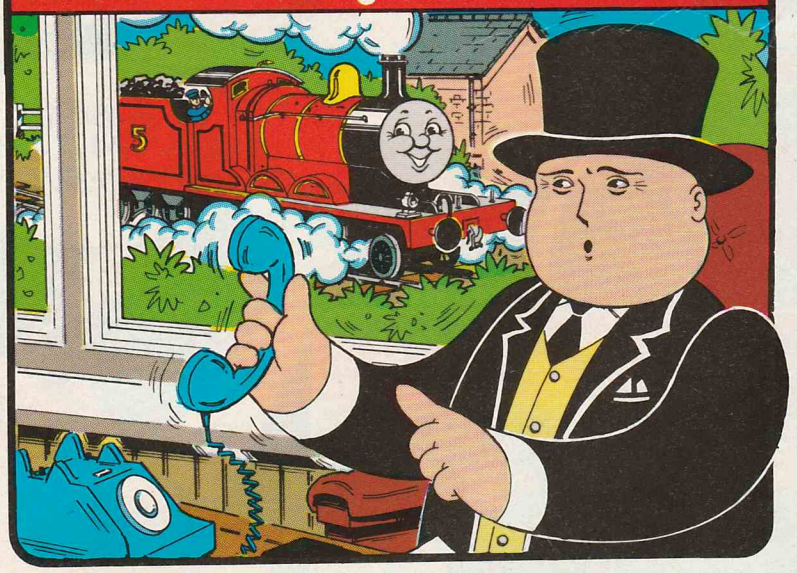
THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE

Peep! Peep! The Fat Controller is very proud indeed of his smart top hat! But one day, as he was waiting at the Main Station for Thomas to arrive, a man carrying a long fishing bag accidentally knocked his hat right off his head! The Fat Controller's hat rolled along the platform! Where do you think that it ended up? You can find out when you read the story that begins on the next page! Peep! Peep!

SPLENDID COMPETITION!

The second part of our splendid competition, to win one of **16 Thomas the Tank Engine Sit 'n' Ride Baby Walkers** – from *Bluebird Toys (UK) Ltd*, is on page 13!

In our next issue: The telephones on the Island of Sodor are out of order, so James must take a message from the Fat Controller to the Big Harbour!



MEMBERSHIP CARDS!

If you would like to become a member of the **Thomas Club** and receive a splendid membership card, just collect 3 tokens like the one at the bottom of this page! Send one **yellow**, **red** and **green** token together with a stamped addressed envelope, to: *Thomas Membership Cards, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

THOMAS TOKEN

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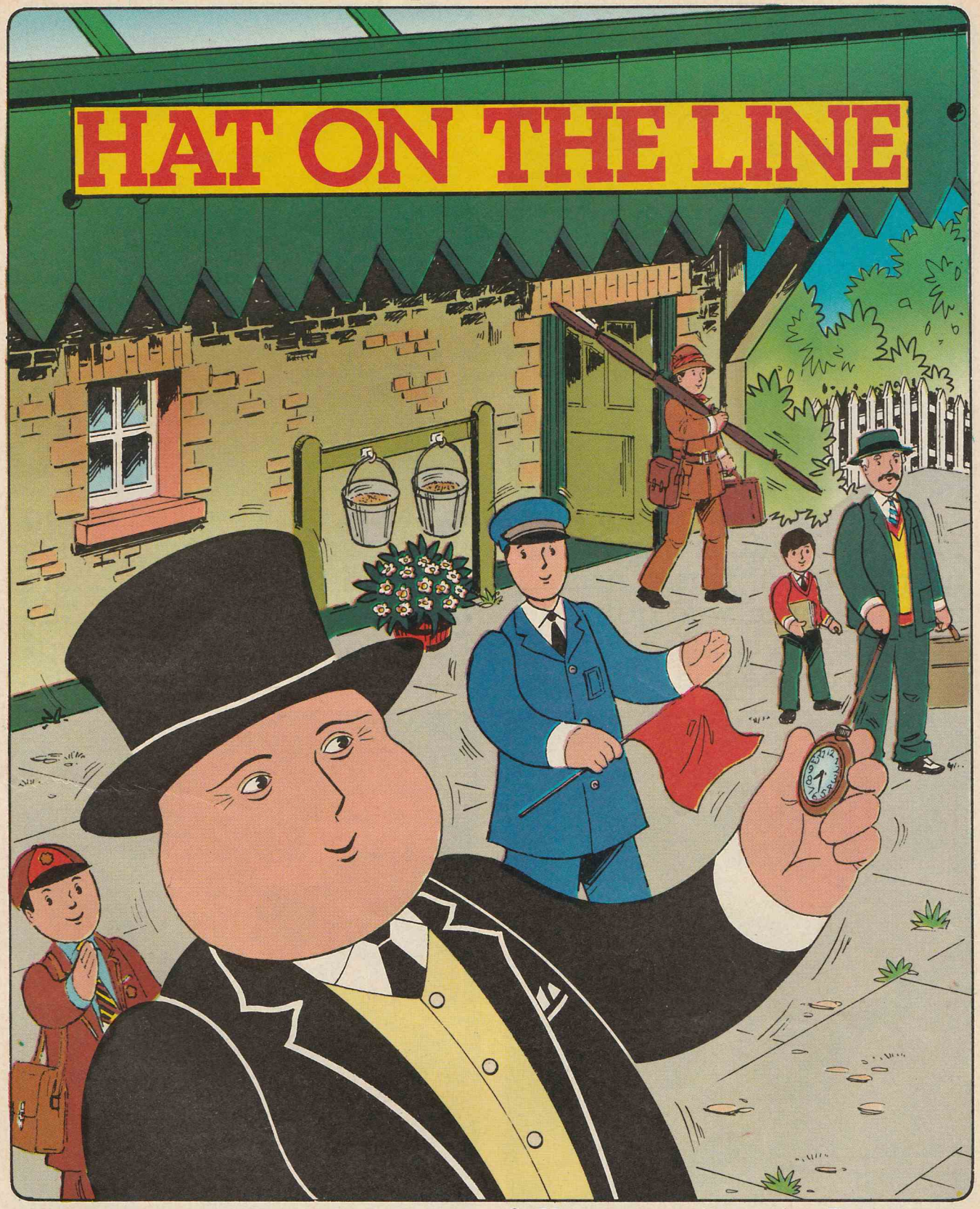
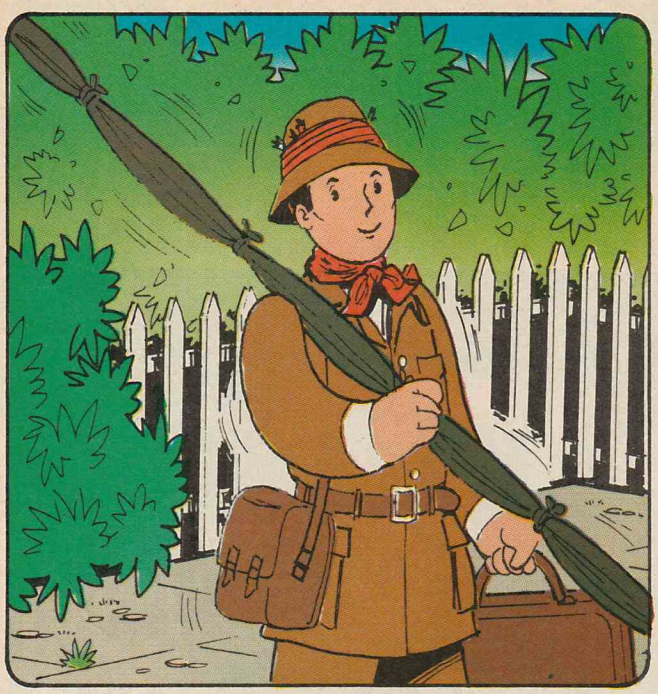
ABC

A listen and look story!

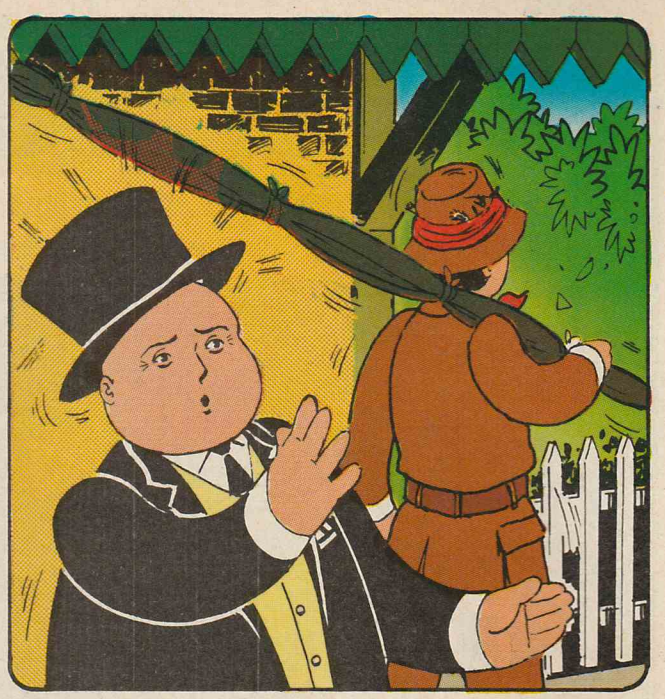


1. It was a splendid day on the Island of Sodor. The sun was shining and the birds were singing. The Fat Controller was waiting on the platform at the Main Station.

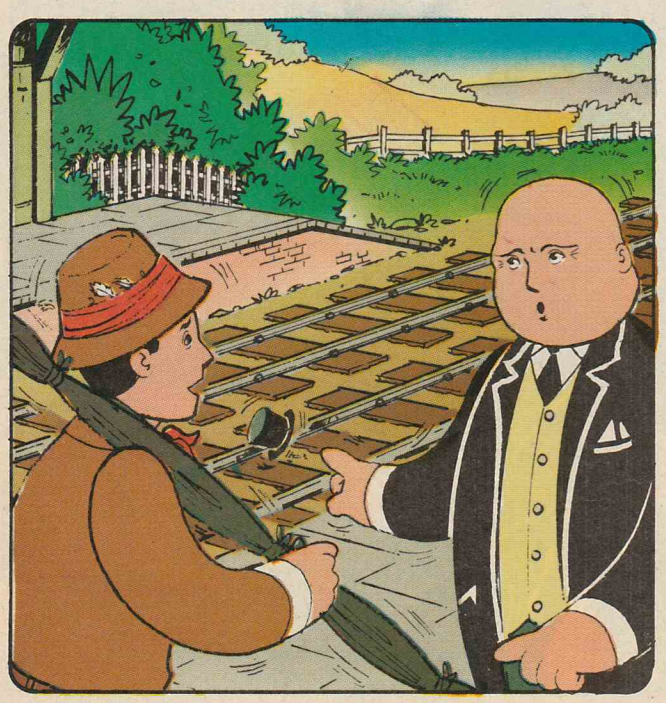
2. He was waiting for Thomas. He looked at his pocket watch to check the time. Thomas would be along any minute. The platform was already bustling with people.



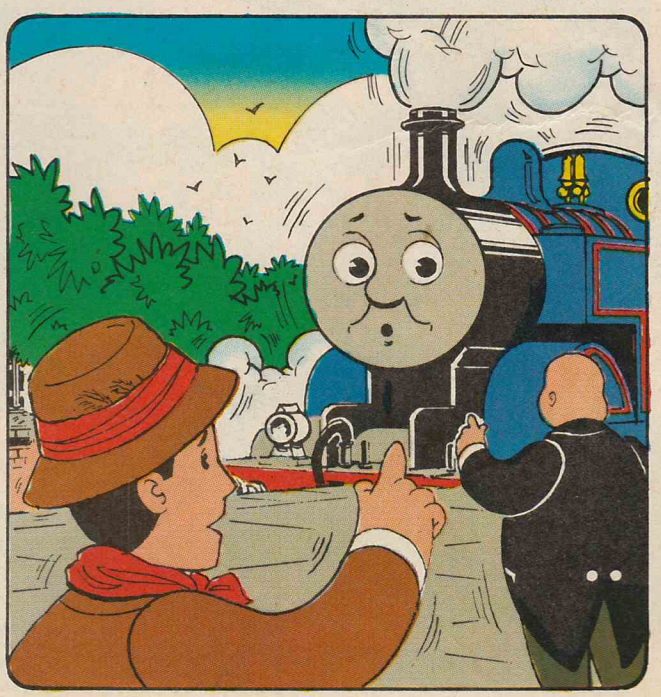
3. There was one man on the platform with a long, tall bag. Inside it was a fishing rod. The man was going to go fishing in a little river two stations up the line.



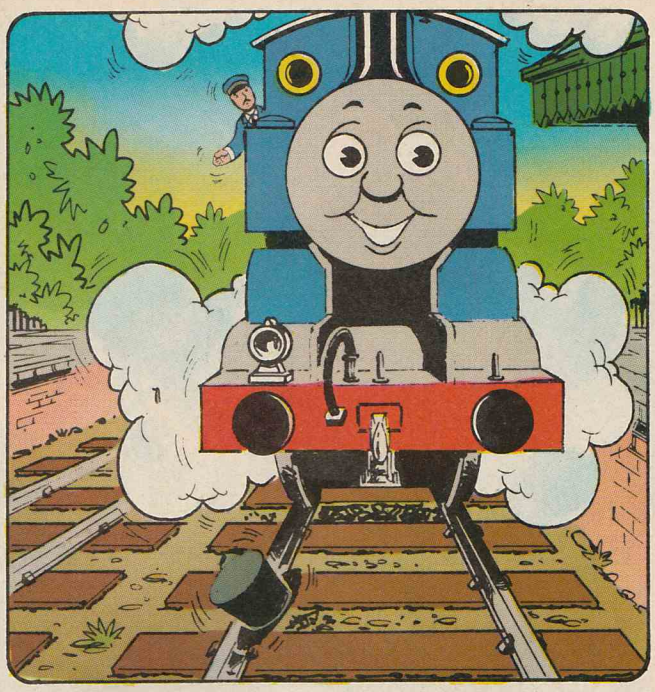
4. As the man walked along the platform he accidentally brushed the Fat Controller's hat with his long bag. The Fat Controller's hat was knocked right off his head!



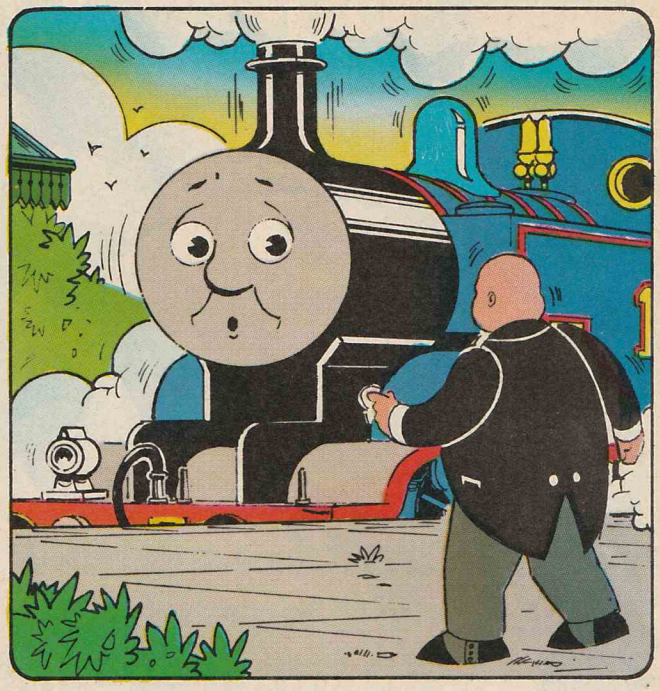
5. The man was very sorry. He watched the Fat Controller's hat roll off the platform and rest on the line below. Just at that moment, Thomas came puffing into the station!



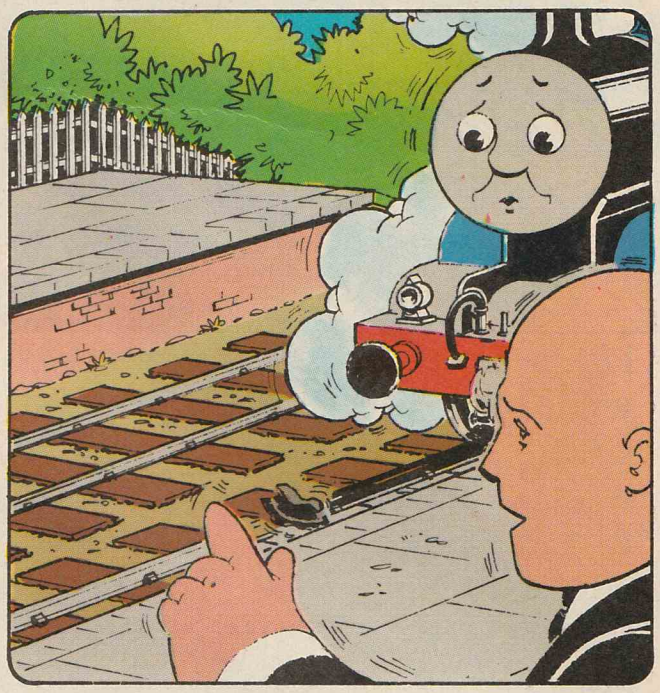
6. "Stop! Stop!" called the man. "Stop! Stop!" cried the Fat Controller. The other passengers were also shouting, but it was too late; Thomas couldn't stop in time!



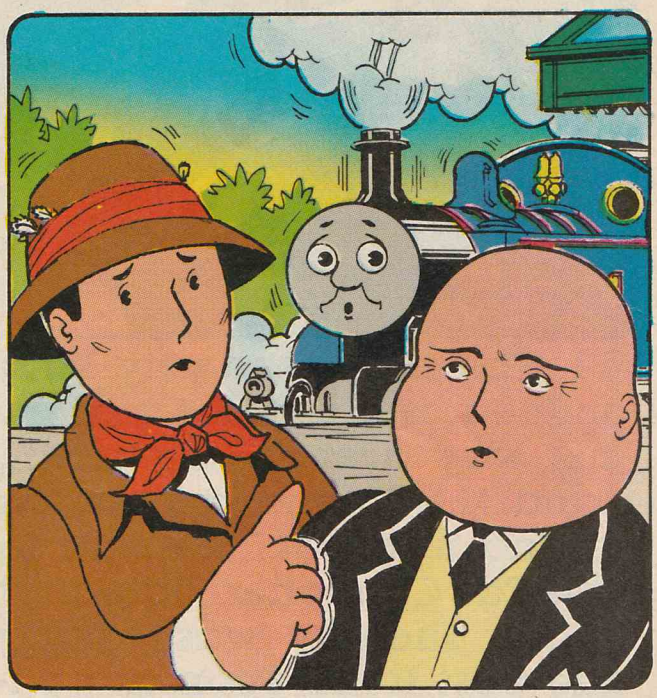
7. Thomas felt a crunch under his wheels as he stopped. He noticed the Fat Controller pointing to the tracks and he couldn't imagine what the fuss was about.



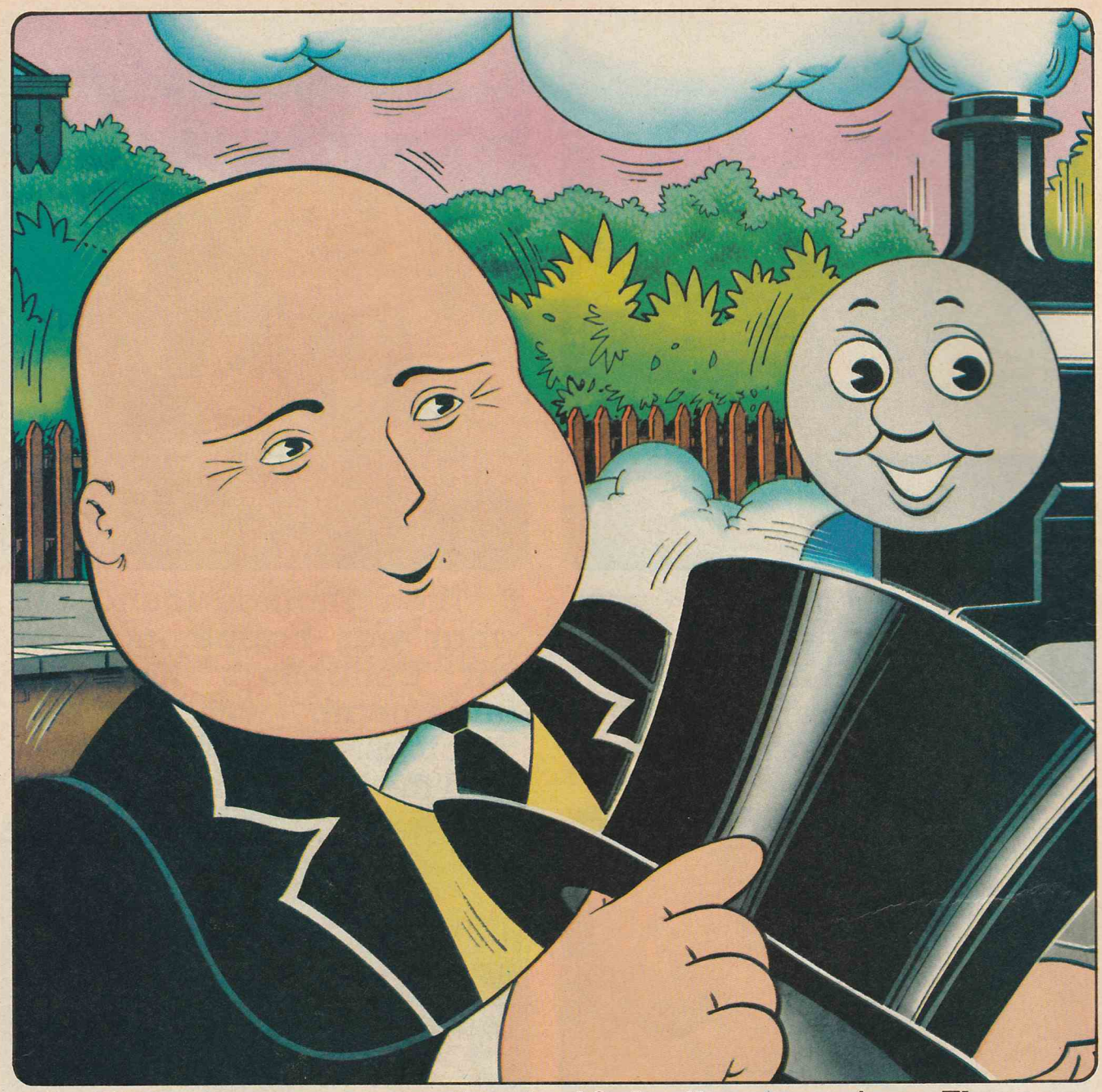
8. Then Thomas found out what was happening. The Fat Controller's hat was underneath his wheels! "Thomas! Back up at once!" said the Fat Controller.



9. Thomas backed up very slowly. The Fat Controller's hat was lying on the rails. It was very squashed and battered. It didn't look like a smart top hat anymore.



10. "I'm so sorry," said the man. "I will buy you a new one straight away." "But they have to be ordered from a special shop on the mainland!" said the Fat Controller.



11. The man was very kind indeed and said he was on his way over to the mainland. "I will send you back a brand new hat," he said to the Fat Controller. Late that night Thomas was taking the post train. Thomas noticed one of the guards unloading a large parcel which was addressed to the Fat Controller.

12. In the morning, Thomas watched the Fat Controller open his big parcel. Inside was a splendid new, black hat. Everyone cheered "hooray," as the Fat Controller proudly placed the hat on his head! There was a note from the man saying, "Dear Fat Controller, I hope the hat is to your liking."

THE END

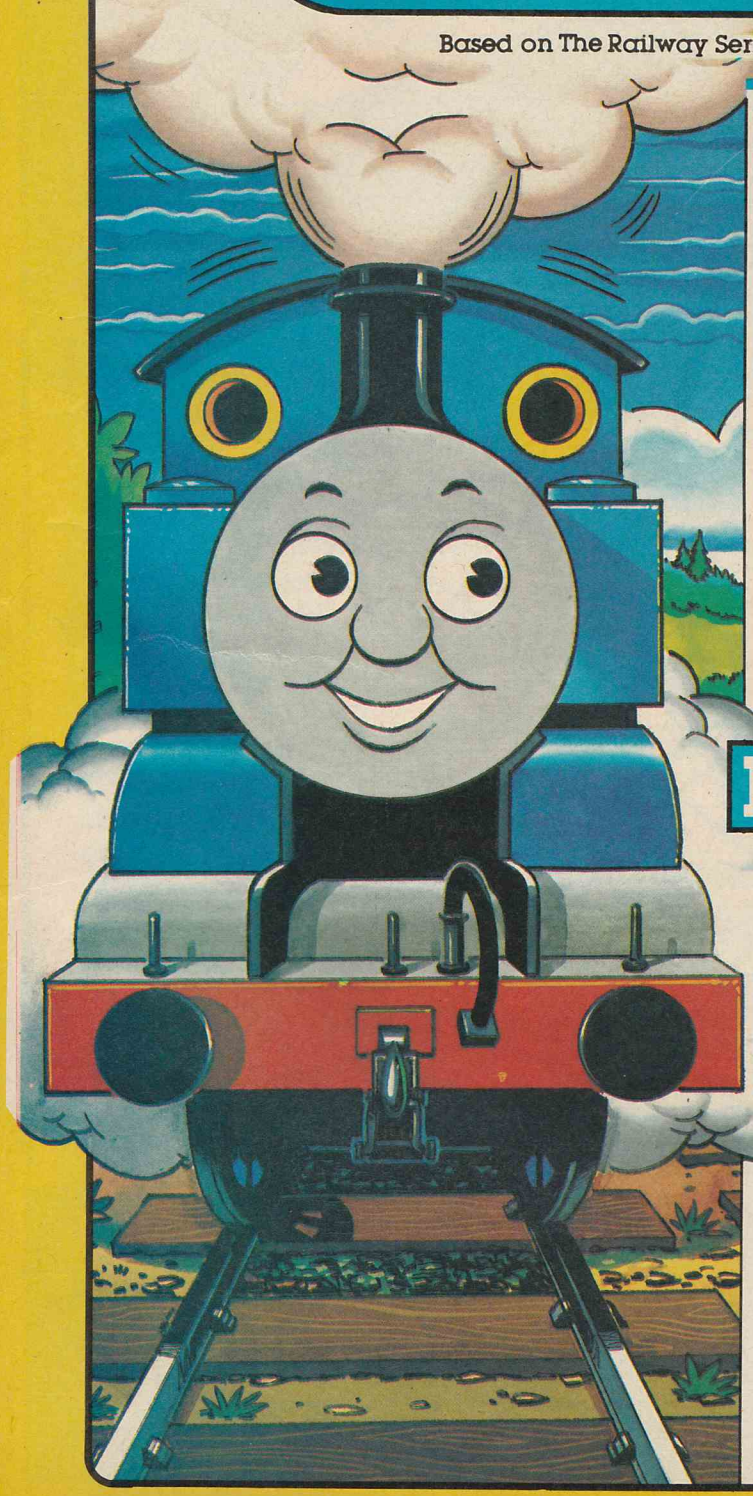
In our next issue: Bumps-a-Daisy!

IT'S FUN TO LEARN WITH

THOMAS

THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.



Thomas the Tank Engine and his friends learn all sorts of interesting things as they puff round the Island of Sodor.
Jump aboard and you can come too!

EVERY MONTH!

Learning is fun with THOMAS!

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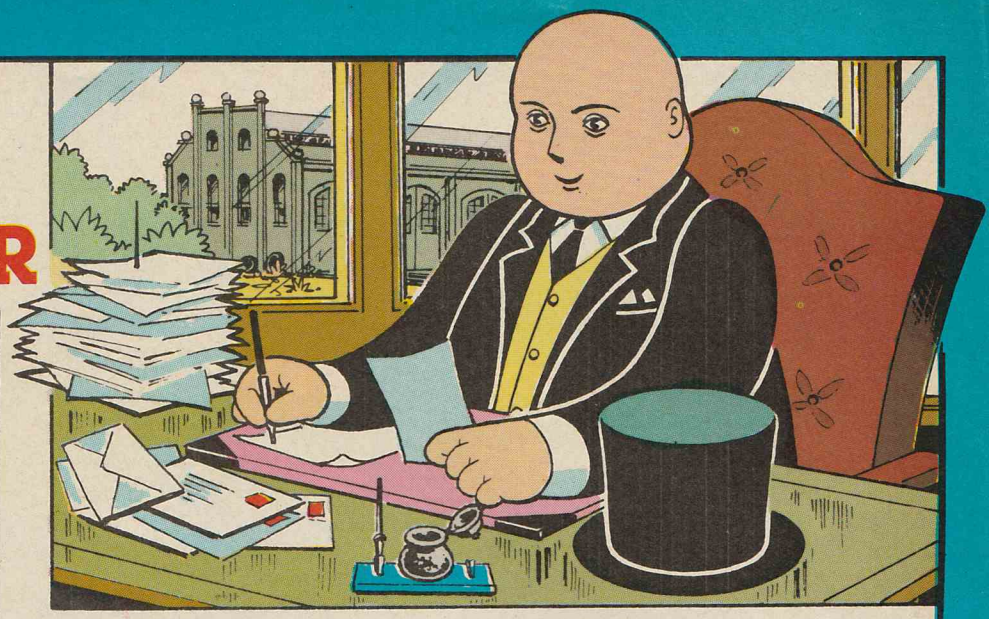
PUZZLE PAGE

**Harold can see a splendid sight,
But who is flying which kite?
The answers are below!**

A. Stephen. B. Bridget. C. Dave the guard. D. The Fat Controller.

Write to the FAT CONTROLLER



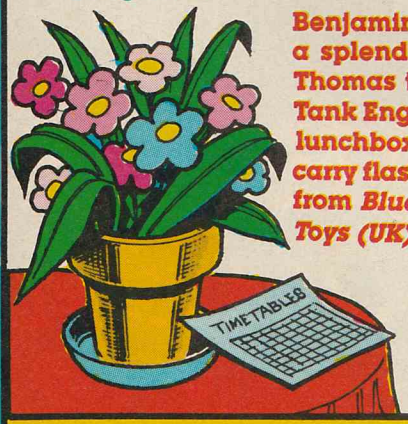
Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below? I should be so very pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

We have just come back from our holidays in Spain. One day, there was a competition on the beach to see who could make the best sandcastle. Daddy and I made a big Thomas out of sand and we came second! We won a packet of colouring pens!

Lots of love from **Benjamin**, aged 5.

Gracious me! *It must have been a very splendid looking Thomas to have won you second prize! Now you can use your new pens to enter our colouring competition that is on page 13!*



Benjamin wins a splendid Thomas the Tank Engine lunchbox and carry flask from *Bluebird Toys (UK) Ltd.*

A HELPING HAND!

Dear Fat Controller,

I like watching birds on our bird table. This morning a sparrow got stuck inside the wire feeder and my grandad had to cut the wire to get him out! The sparrow flew away but he didn't say thank you!

Love from Conor, aged 3.

I am pleased that your grandad managed to help that little sparrow! Even though he flew straight away, I'm sure he was very grateful!

AROUND AND AROUND!

Dear Fat Controller,

I have been collecting **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** magazine since issue number 1. Every week I take out the mural pages and put them up on my bedroom wall. I have so many pages on my wall that the mural goes around my bedroom almost four times!

Lots of love from **Maria**, aged 6.

Upon my soul! *your bedroom must look very colourful indeed! I do hope that you have been collecting my special counting mural, and hanging that on your wall too!*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Chris Hammersley, Sean David Burns, Donna Marie O'Hara, Lee James Goodwin (28398), Christopher Dunn (9264), Andrew Barrett (30167), Martin Colin Jeffs (33633), Philip Matthew Nash (29654), Neil Langdon, Sam Franklin, Jonathon Berry (27175), Christopher Johnson, Nicholas Baker (25526), Matthew Dodd, Ryan Roger Moon (22199), Gareth Mason (19078), Amanda Smith, Nicholas Gould (3963), Karen Kelly, Christopher Vietra, Rebecca Weller (6627), Malcolm Radcliffe (4860), Michael Sullivan and Richard Hill (26045).

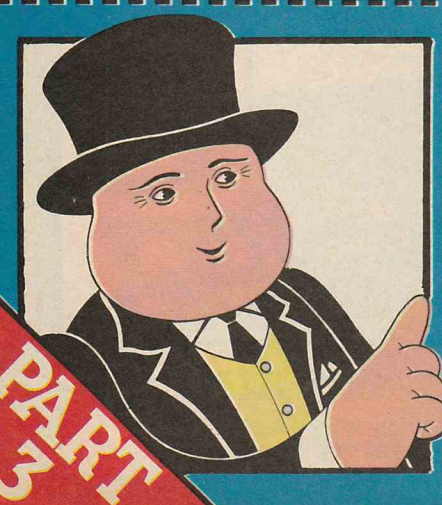
If you would like a birthday mention here, just send details on a postcard, at least **9 weeks in advance**. We cannot **promise** to print all the birthdays, but we will do our very best.

Yours,

Sir Topham Hatt

the Fat Controller.

Send your letters to: The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.



PART 3

COUNT WITH THE FAT CONTROLLER!

Welcome to the third part of a very special four part counting mural I have for you! I do hope that you have already collected the first two sections! When you've answered all the questions on the opposite page, make sure that you hang this centrespread safely alongside your other two parts, on your wall – and then wait for our next issue, to finish Thomas's train!

How many logs are on the first truck?

How many butterflies are there?

How many windmills can you see?

How many birds are flying in the sky?

How many field mice can you see?

Next issue: Don't miss the last trucks!

COLOURING TIME!

Edward has arrived and the people call,
'Colour us in – one and all!'

COMPETITION

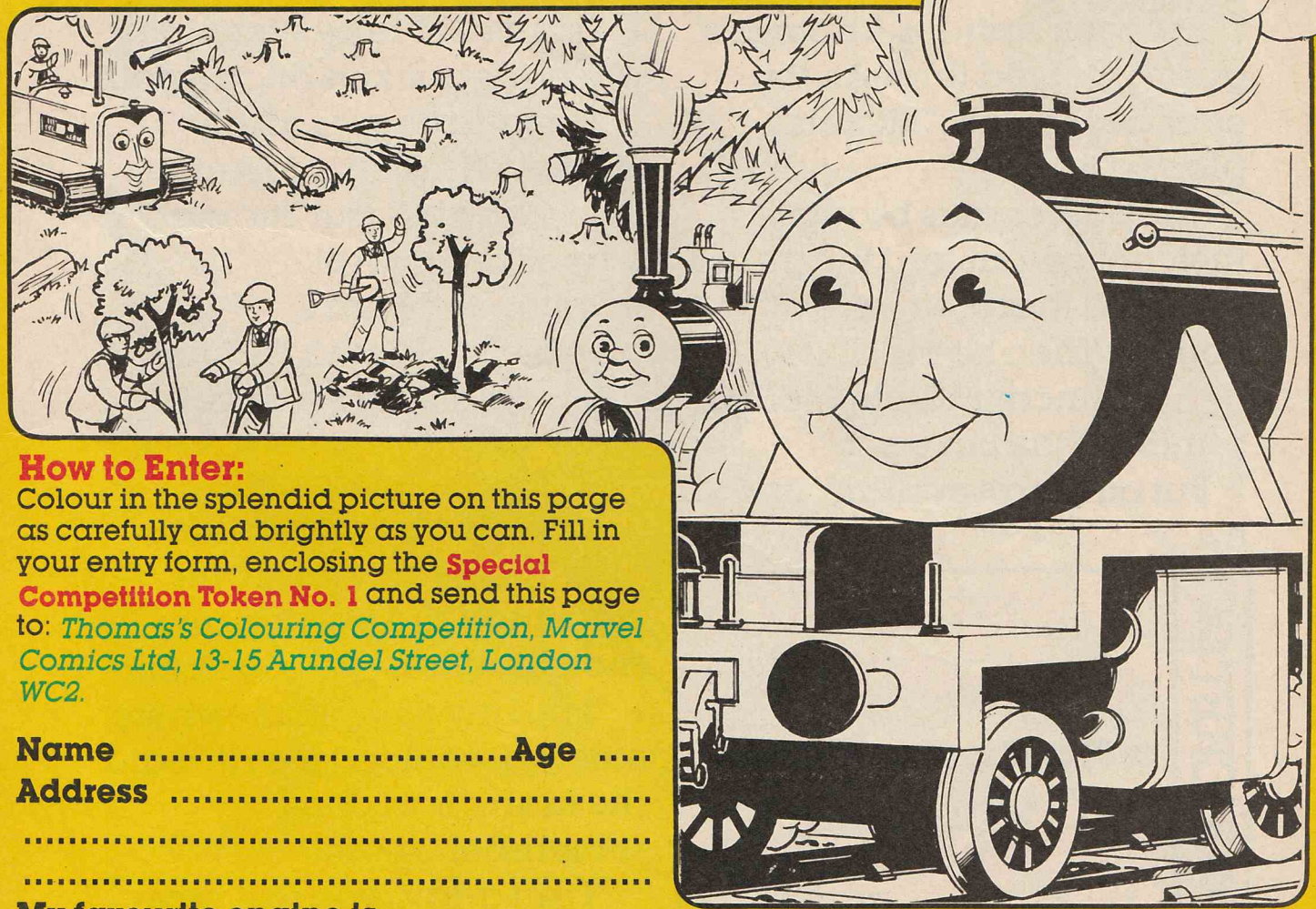
Special Competition Token No 2

16 THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE SIT 'N' RIDE BABY WALKERS TO BE WON!

Here is the second and final part of our competition in which you could win one of these splendid **Thomas the Tank Engine Sit 'n' Ride Baby Walkers** – from *Bluebird Toys (UK) Ltd*, shown opposite!

When sending your entry, please be sure to enclose the **Special Competition Token No. 1** that appeared in our last issue.

28th September 1990



How to Enter:

Colour in the splendid picture on this page as carefully and brightly as you can. Fill in your entry form, enclosing the **Special Competition Token No. 1** and send this page to: *Thomas's Colouring Competition, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

Name .....**Age** .....

Address .....

.....

.....

My favourite engine is .....

because .....

Rules: This competition is open to all readers other than employees and their families of Marvel Comics Ltd, Bluebird Toys (UK) Ltd and Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into.

A read-aloud story!

The Ticket!

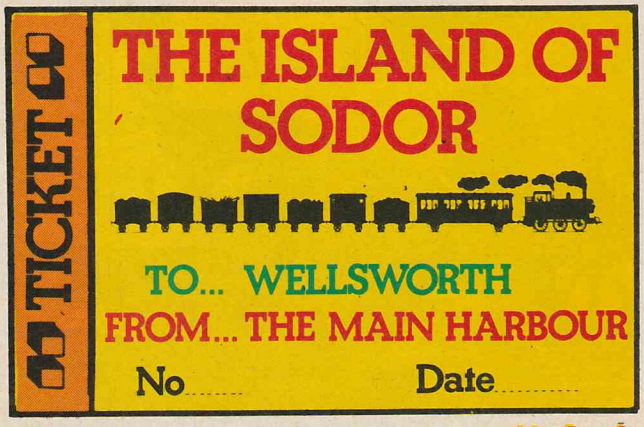
One day Thomas was working on his branch line. He pulled into the Main Station right on time. The passengers liked Thomas to be on time.

The passengers climbed into Annie and Clarabel. Thomas's guard waved his green flag, and off Thomas went.

Between stations, Thomas's guard walked through the coaches saying, "Tickets, please!"

The passengers brought their tickets out and the guard checked that they were correct. Then he took his ticket-punch and 'click-click', punched the tickets.

But one man couldn't find his ticket.



ticket

"I have it in one of my pockets," he said, searching through his jacket.

As Thomas pulled into the next station, the man still hadn't found his ticket!

"Are you sure that you have a ticket?" asked the guard.

"Oh , yes," replied the man. He started to take everything out of his pockets once again.

The passengers at the station climbed into Annie and Clarabel. But Thomas was asked to wait.

"I wonder what's happening?" said Thomas.

"So do I," said his driver.

The guard was still waiting to check the man's ticket, but the poor man didn't have any more pockets left to look in!

"I put my ticket somewhere safe so I wouldn't lose it," said the man. "But I can't remember where!"

"I am afraid you will have to get off the train if you

haven't got a ticket," said the guard. "You can't travel without a ticket!"

"Wait a minute," said the man. "I remember!" He picked up his book from the seat beside him. He opened it up, and there between the pages was the ticket!

"Good," sighed the guard, "now I can punch your ticket!" He took the ticket and looked at it closely.

"Oh dear, this isn't a ticket for the branch line," said the guard. "You are on the wrong train!"

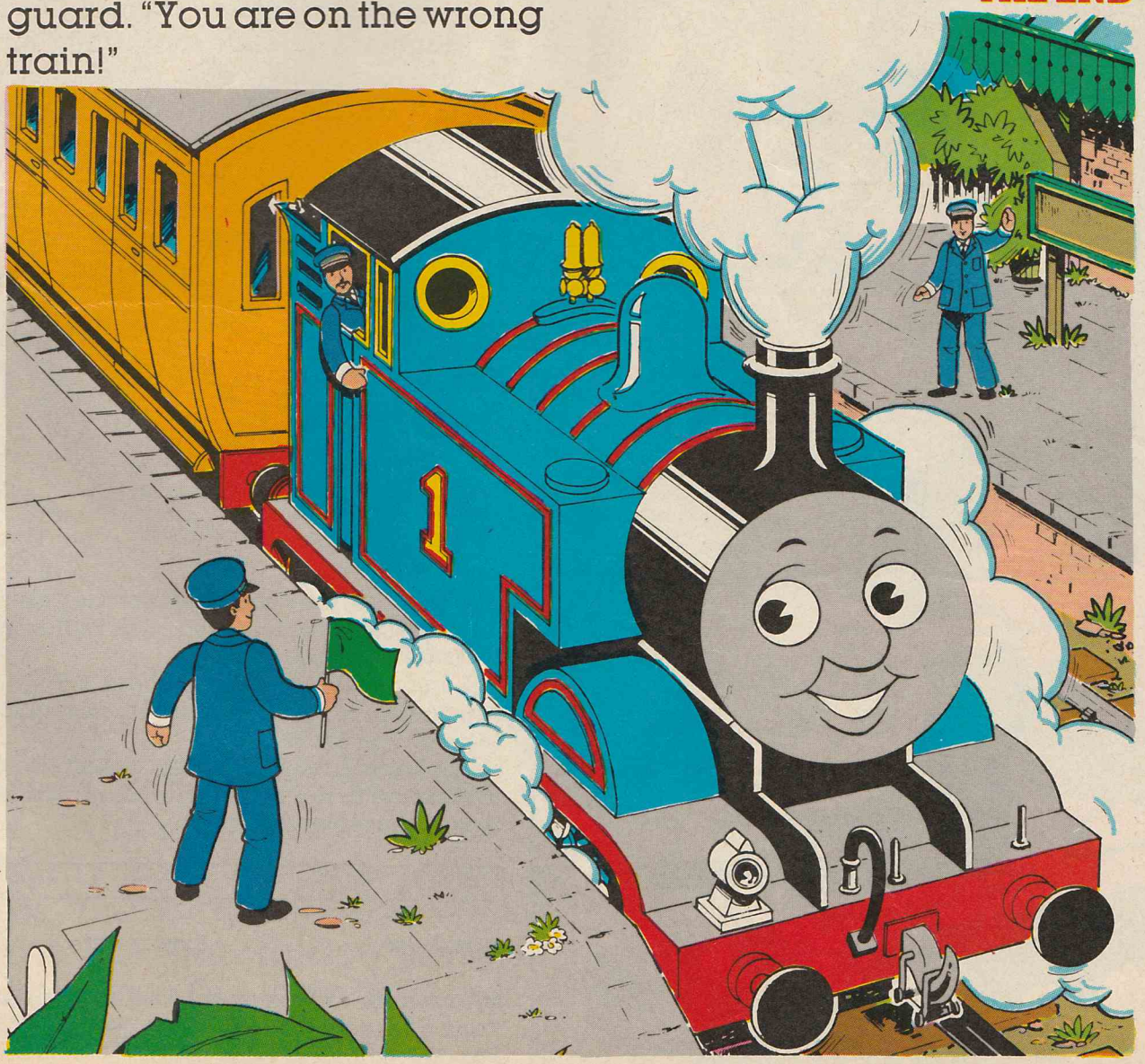
The poor man looked very worried.

"You need to get back to the Main Harbour Station," the guard said kindly.

The man got off the train and the guard waved his green flag, so Thomas could carry on to the next station.

Thomas was now a little late, but being a Really Useful Engine he soon made up time!

THE END



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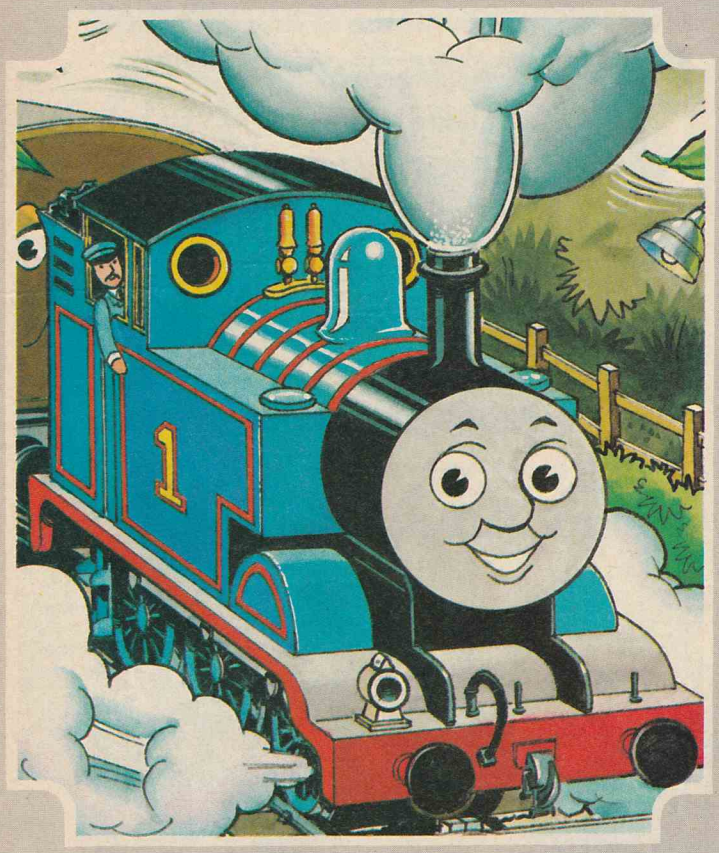
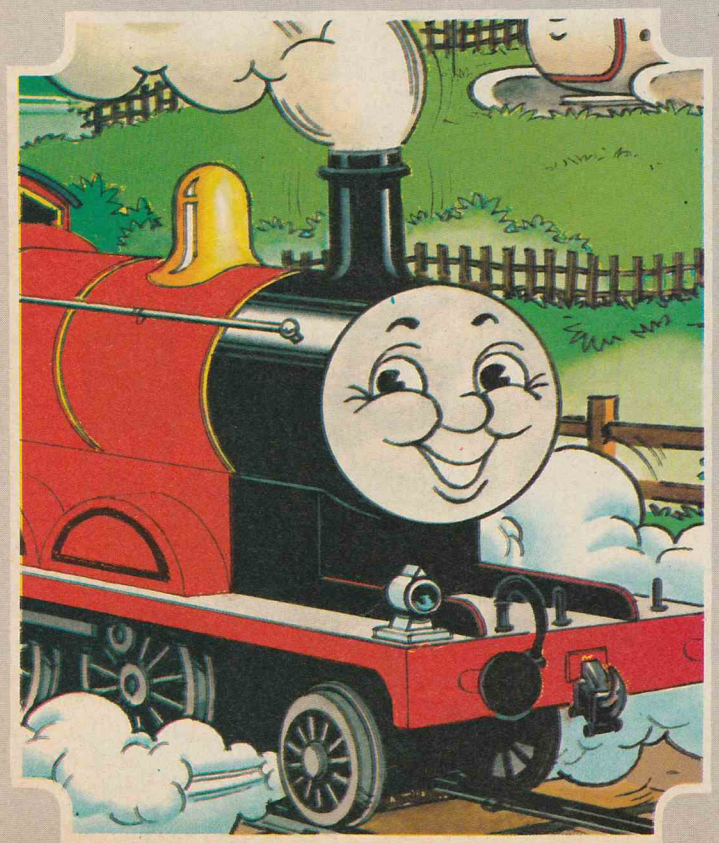




. . .to your child's favourite fortnightly magazine. . .

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

It costs just £15.00 for your child to be sent every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** fortnightly magazine for a whole year! (Overseas subscribers £30.00.) Your child will also receive a splendid membership card plus personal number, enabling him/her to enter special offers and competitions which are frequently open to Thomas Club members *only!*

ORDER FORM **SO1**

Name .....

Address .....

.....

..... **Postcode** .....

Please supply me with **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** for a year. I will allow 28 days for delivery.

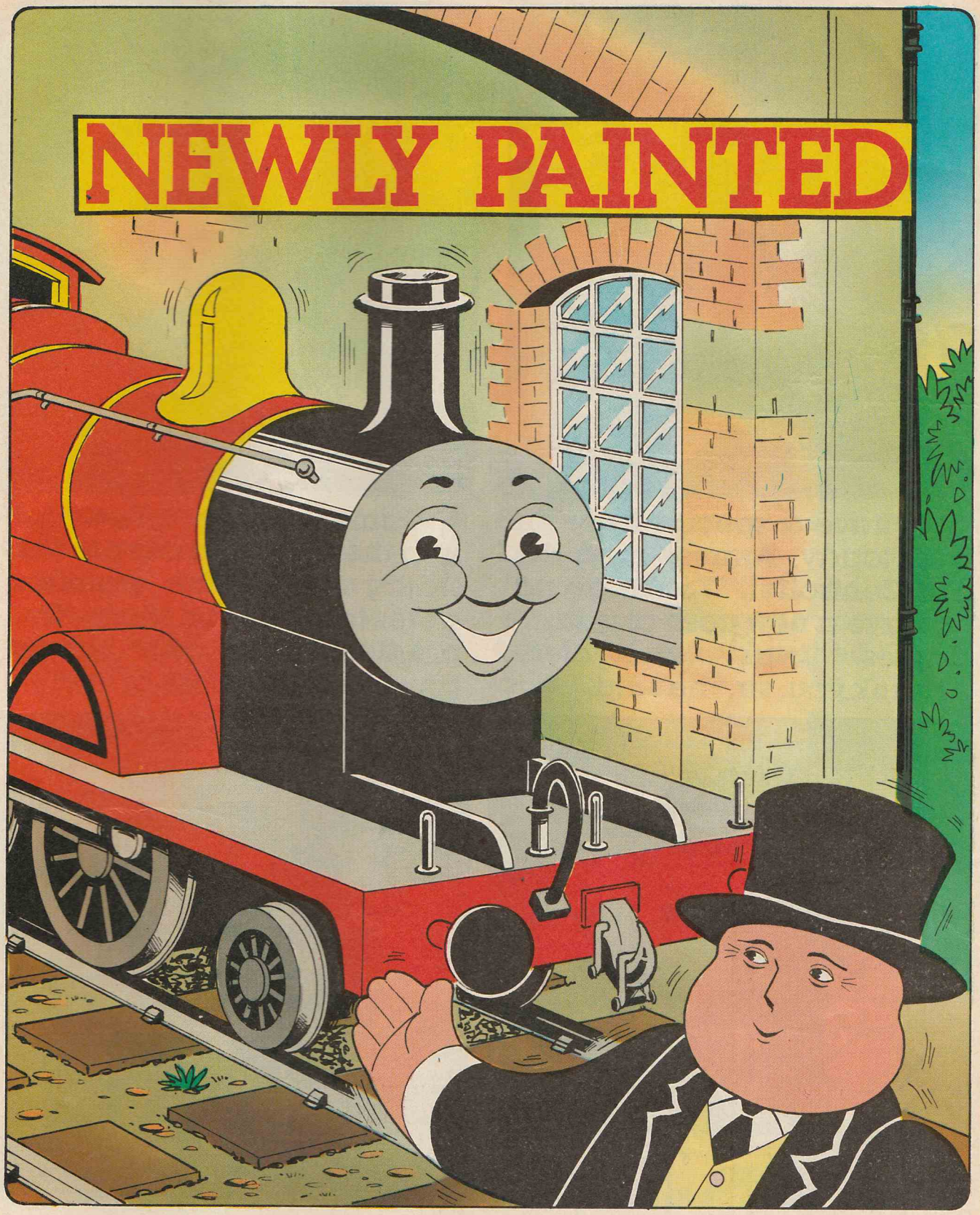
☐ I enclose a cheque/postal order for £15.00 (UK) or £30.00 (overseas) payable to Marvel Comics Ltd.

☐ Please charge £15.00 (UK) or £30.00 (overseas) to my Visa/MasterCard. My card number is (13 or 16 digits):

Signature ..... Expiry date .....

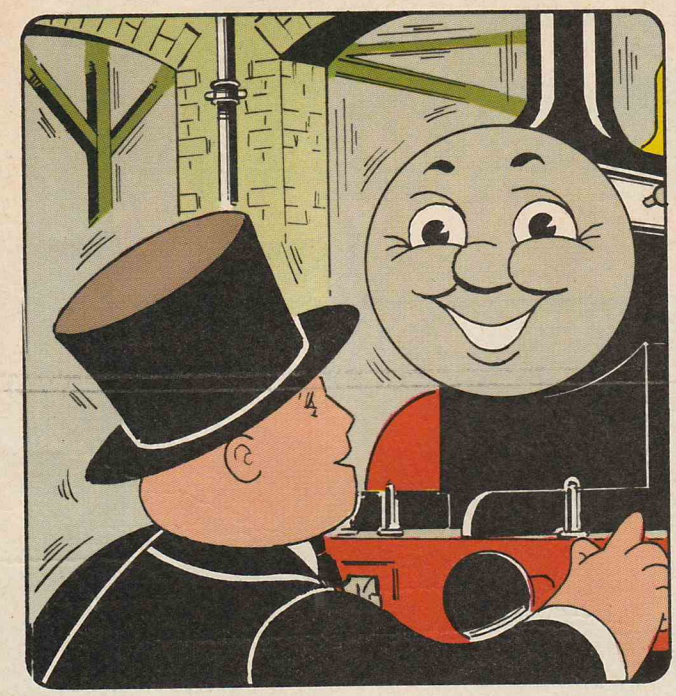
Return form and payment to: *Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester, LE99 0AB.*

A listen and look story!

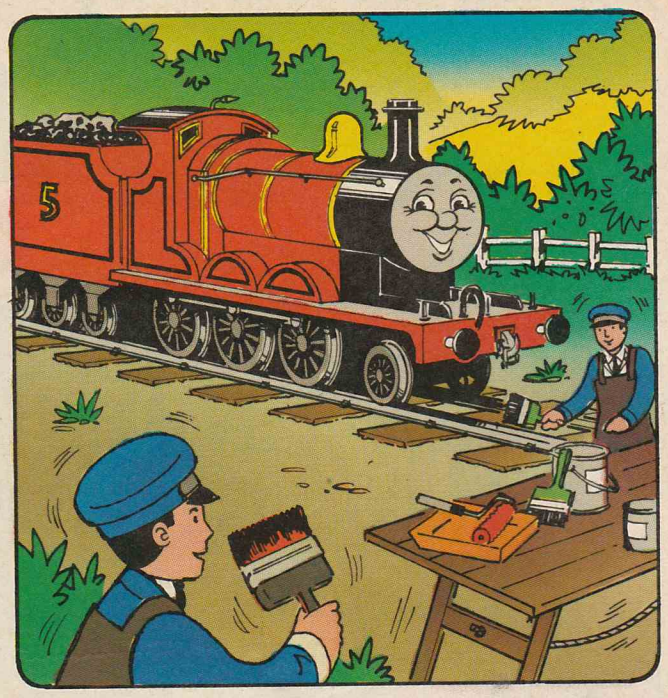


1. James is very proud of his shiny coat. He is pleased to be the only red engine on the Fat Controller's railway. But even the brightest paint soon becomes dull.

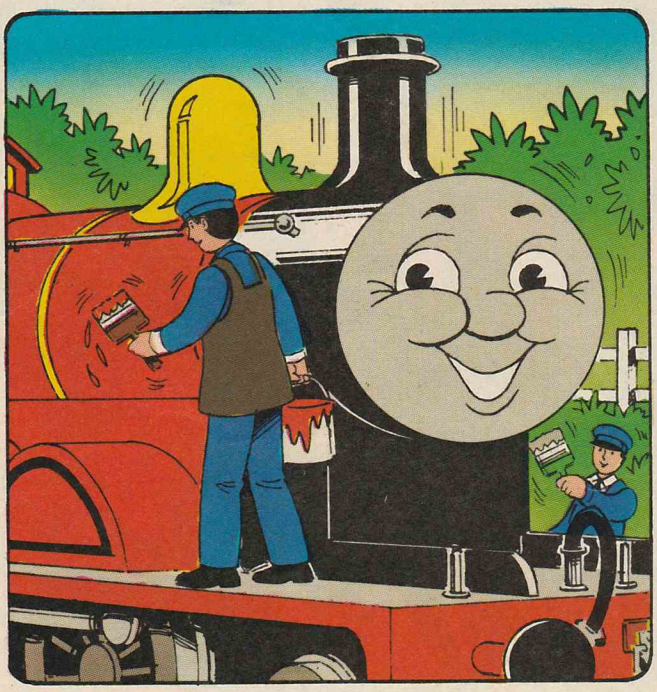
2. It had been some time since James was last painted. His red coat was dull and scratched. One morning the Fat Controller came to see him in the shed.



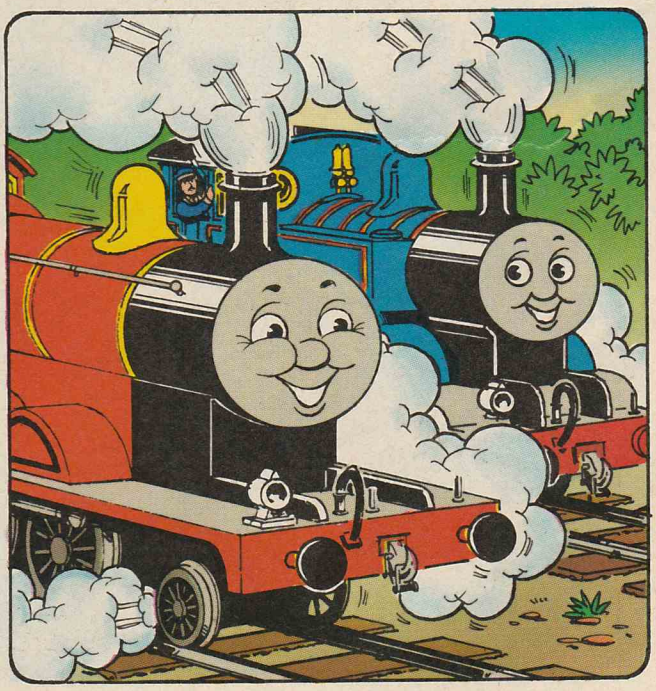
3. "I have a special treat for you today, James," said the Fat Controller. "You're going to have a new coat of paint." James **was** delighted. "Thank you, sir," he said.



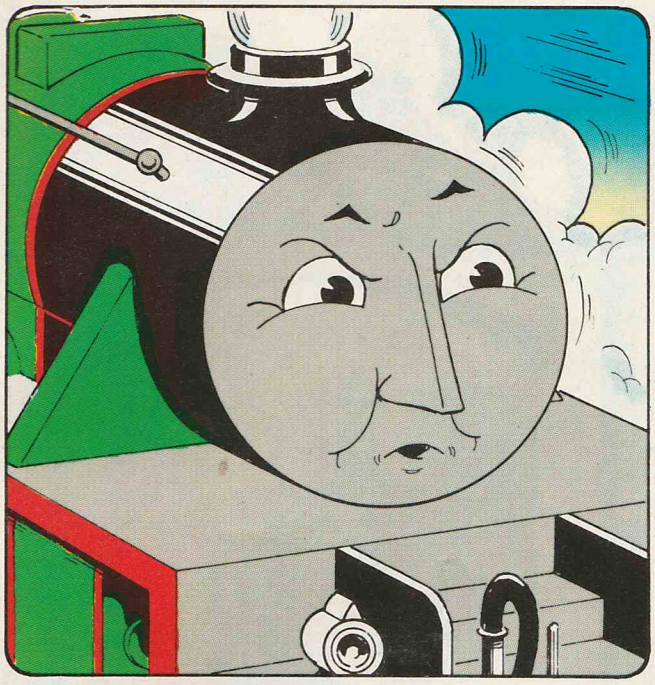
4. James slowly rolled out into the yard and over to the siding where the painters were to work on him. The painters brought large brushes and rollers.



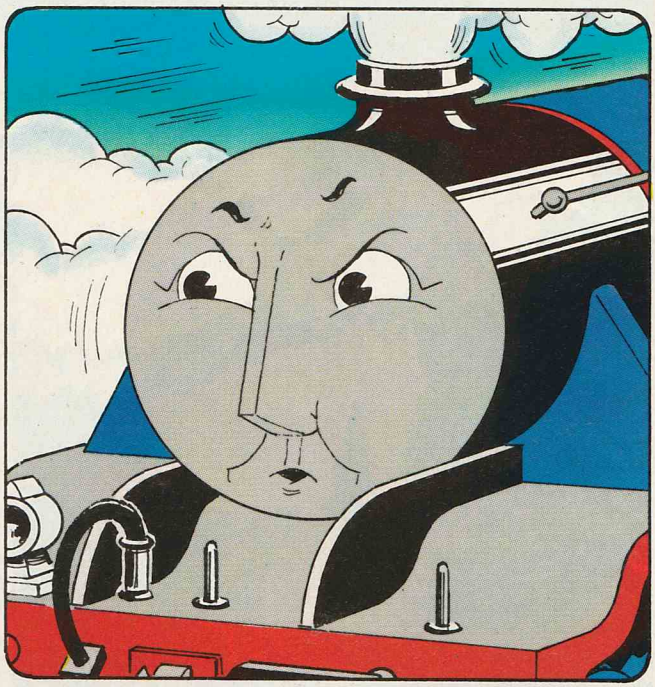
5. James felt lovely as his old paint disappeared under the new coat of glorious red. When the painters had finished their work, James felt like a new engine.



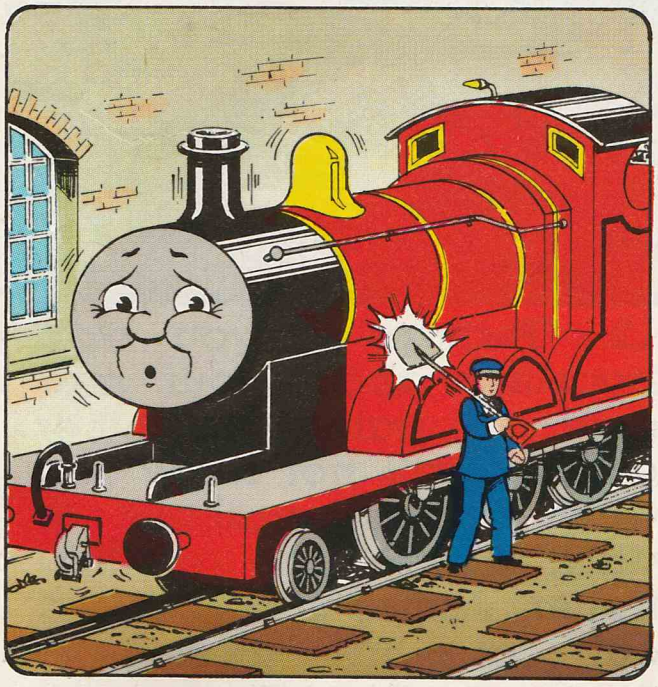
6. "I'm such a fine engine," puffed James as he crossed the yard. "Have you seen my new coat of paint, Thomas?" "How could I miss it?" replied Thomas cheekily.



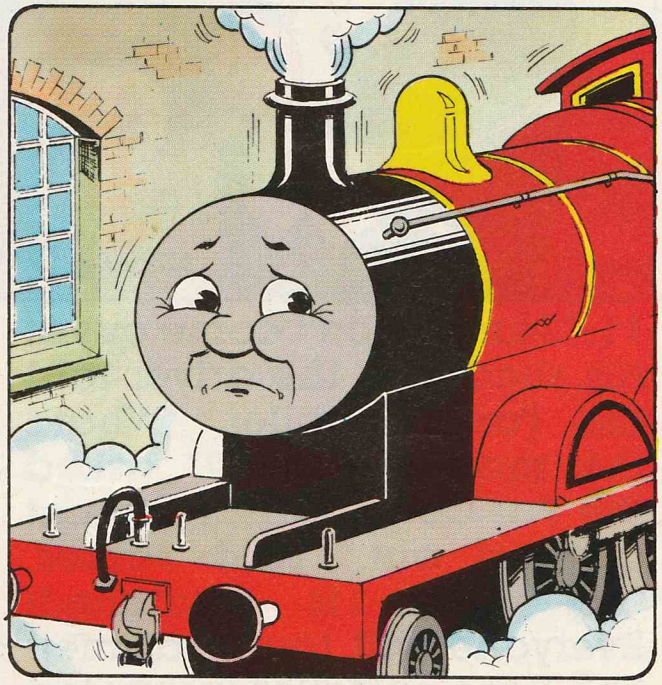
7. James felt prouder than ever. He pointed out his new paint to all the engines. "James is getting too big for his wheels!" complained Henry to Gordon.



8. "Just because he has a brand new coat of paint, James thinks that he can boast to everyone on the Island of Sodor!" puffed Gordon.



9. As one of the workmen was walking through the shed something awful happened. The shovel he was carrying accidentally swung into James's new, red coat! **Clink!**



10. It was only a very small scratch, but it was the very first mark on James's new red coat and he was upset. The next morning, his driver couldn't get James to move.

11. "James won't come out of his shed, sir," the driver told the Fat Controller. "What's the matter, James?" asked the Fat Controller. "I am not coming out," said James. "My paint is scratched! Everyone will laugh at me!" The Fat Controller inspected the mark. "It's only a small scratch," he said. "I am sure that nobody will notice."

12. "Perhaps if you stop boasting about your new coat of paint the other engines will not tease you when it gets scratched or dirty," advised the Fat Controller. James slowly rolled out of his shed. As James passed Henry and Gordon he whistled "hello" and they didn't even notice his little scratch at all.

THE END

In our next issue: A message for Duck!